NBC NIGHTLY NEWS - 9/11 ANNIVERSARY NEWS REPORTS - 2005-2019

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From 2005 - 2019 NBC NIGHTLY News Reports of the 9/11 Attacks

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tomorrow marks four years since the terrorist attack on the united states in new york police officials have vowed never to allow a repeat of that awful day they have now set up an international counterterrorism program with few rivals nbc senior investigative correspondent lisa myers has an exclusive behind the scenes look at the operation on the streets in the air underground and on the water the new york city police department is a visible and heavily armed presence the goal show up in force unannounced to keep potential terrorists off guard but since 9 11 the biggest changes at the nypd have taken place inside and have more to do with the quiet collection of intelligence than brash displays of firepower every morning new york city police commissioner ray kelly gets briefed on terrorism threats to new york he comes down to new york city more frequently than we're comfortable with his team david cohen a cia veteran who helped set up the agency's bin laden unit and michael sheehan a renowned counter-terror expert what percentage of your department is focused on counterterrorism well we deploy about a thousand police officers a day under kelly the nypd has gone international with officers based full full-time in israel london france singapore and canada calling in the latest threats to new york city anything that we can get to help us better protect the city we want to get it we want to get it quickly terrorism analysts say the new york city police department is now on the cutting edge of counterterrorism in some areas actually ahead of the fbi and other federal agencies inside this unmarked brick warehouse in brooklyn a key to the operation this is our information resource center shelves full of al qaeda manuals detectives watch terrorist propaganda

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detectives watch terrorist propaganda videos to learn the latest tactics the nypd is now so good at monitoring militant islamic chat rooms that the cia asked for help it's our responsibility to be quick off off the dime move rapidly to learn what we can to bring that knowledge back to new york city brains to try to stay ahead of the bad guys and braun to protect the most likely terror target in the world lisa myers nbc news new york now on the heels of one deadly hurricane and concern about another comes a day for americans to remember a tragedy at the hands of terrorists here in new orleans and across the nation there were ceremonies to mark the attack that changed so much in this city police and firefighters from new york are fighting to save another community ravaged by a tragedy so many are still struggling to comprehend some of those on the front lines here were on duty four years ago when the plane struck on that site in new york flags were raised photos held high as names were read my big brother wade brian greene we miss you and loved ones remembered i love you i miss you and i salute you in shanksville pennsylvania there were tributes to those on united flight 93 the flight that fought back in washington the president led the ceremony on the white house lawn observing a moment of silence at the time when the first plane hit the north tower secretary of defense donald rumsfeld remembered the fallen at the pentagon with a wreath laying at arlington national cemetery while thousands took part in the freedom walk organized by the department of defense and on this coast still strewn with the

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and on this coast still strewn with the rubble of the latest disaster to hit this country residents and first responders attended church services to remember twin tragedies we're all americans and we we just keep coming back together and that's what's going to get every american to get through these times of crisis also remembered in the ceremonies today u.s troops in afghanistan and iraq five years after the attacks on 9 11 there is news tonight about the health of many of the 40 000 firefighters police officers and cleanup workers who responded at ground zero after the towers came tumbling down and the news is not good in the largest study so far of post-9 11 health problems 69 of those studied had serious lung problems we're joined now by nbc news correspondent ann thompson at ground zero in lower manhattan tonight and good evening good evening brian the doctors called these findings sobering revealing serious health issues today and perhaps even bigger problems to come it was a toxic stew in the words of one doctor the heir the government initially said was safe is proving to be hazardous to first responders health what many long suspected there should no longer be any doubt about the health effects of the world trade center our patients are sick and will need ongoing health monitoring and treatment for the rest of their lives close to 9 500 first responders were studied including policemen iron workers and utility workers mount sinai medical center found almost 6 500 developed new or worsened respiratory problems and nearly 5 600 still have them including retired new york police commander jeff and dean the breathing i think is the hardest he ran to the trade center september 11th and spent much of the next two and a half months there today he has lung scarring asthma sinus problems and acid reflux

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problems and acid reflux it's very frustrating when you can't do things you used to do i can't dig the garden up i i can't run like i'd like to run with my grandchildren the study also found one-third had abnormal breathing tests doubled the number researchers expected today's findings mirror what the new york fire department found among its first responders earlier this year on average their lung function dropped 12 times what you'd expect in the prior year now researchers say they will turn their attention to the potential long-term consequences of the dust including cancer disabled iron worker john spirazzo says he feels vindicated by today's report that there is a connection between where he worked as a hero and his current status as a victim i know after five years of suffering as every other responder has been suffering i can honestly tell you i feel hopeful but still i feel doubtful doubtful because one of the unresolved issues is who will pay to treat and monitor these workers after much haggling the federal government set aside 125 million dollars what one politician calls a down payment the long-term cost says one doctor is going to be very expensive brian and thompson earlier today at a firehouse here in manhattan that used to look out on the two world trade center towers i met with three young men all rookie firefighters with the new york city fire department like so many members of the department they all come from firefighting families in fact with these three guys that is the point they are fdny members today because of who they all lost on 9 11. they are three young men all sons of new york city firefighters who have all become new york city firefighters after losing their dads on the same day matthew maddie ryan recovered his father's irish clotter

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recovered his father's irish clotter ring it stands for friendship loyalty and love his dad was a battalion chief christopher ganci's dad was a legend chief of department pete ganci mayor giuliani spoke at the funeral christopher has his dad's old helmet then there's james dowdell his dad was in new york's prestigious rescue four all he has left is the tool that belonged to his father that was found in the wreckage it's the only thing we got from him we never found him never recovered any remains so i thought this is this is special to have i was fortunate enough to have 16 great years of my father dowdell was in high school on 9 11 ryan and gancy were in business making money gansey has an ivy league degree and an mba things that were important are no longer important the things that you know that used to value so much aren't the same and your whole value system changes it's a little foggy now but i just i'll never feel that innocent again you know and now i look at life through an entirely different way when i heard that the building collapsed i knew in my heart that he was in there and i knew i think at that point i knew it wasn't good gansey's dad the chief survived the first tower collapse but not the second he turned around and went right back into the breach he

went right back knowingly and i look at that do i have that kind of metal do i have that kind of you know strength i hope that i do but uh you know the word hero gets thrown around so many times so loosely you think of baseball players and people talk about actors as heroes and i look at what these guys do those men they're heroes oh my father you know our fathers weren't they weren't in you know they weren't at the top of that building trying to make a million dollars you know they they were literally fine you know never be rich and never be poor you know they were just doing they were doing their job and their job was to help people [Music] when we next see you for monday night's

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when we next see you for monday night's broadcast will be adjacent to where the world trade center towers once stood for the last five years we've called it ground zero almost three thousand american families had loved ones taken from them on that day they all reacted differently tonight we have the story of two 911 widows who reacted in their own way and by doing so they are making a difference the story from nbc's dawn fratangelo since september 11th susan reddick has been inspired by a passage from a book on grief it said you can't always choose the roles you play in life but you can choose the way in which you play them we didn't choose to be 9 11 widows but with that title comes a voice a voice with a mission that's taken her and another 9 11 widow to women a world away who share the same pain we will tell your stories when we go home and we will let people know susan and dave reddick were college sweethearts how do you feel being a new dad with two children and another on the way living the american dream susan says until dave's plane was flown into the world trade center the outpouring of help was immediate and overwhelming i just felt like we have so much here in the united states and have received so much support how can we turn our backs on those in need in other parts of the world patty quigley felt the same way her husband patrick was also killed that day i like being here to kind of feel a part of where patrick was murdered the two women started raising money with bicycle rides from ground zero to their homes near boston to help other widows like them not here but in afghanistan where some lost husbands in the u.s led bombings a woman in afghanistan when she's widowed their status is automatically lowered a couple of notches and

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notches and is an extremely difficult extremely difficult life their foundation is called beyond the 11th i want it to be more than the hatred from that day and is being chronicled in this documentary but sending money wasn't enough so in june they went to afghanistan to meet the widows they're helping women like sahara our people are all poor she told them and there are so many widows among us a mother is a mother is a mother and a woman is a woman is a woman no matter what country you live in and what circumstances you grow up with these are women in the program five years ago susan admits she wouldn't have been able to find afghanistan on a map now the connection she made there helps her make sense of the world and this december susan will shed the label of widow she's getting remarried i wasn't meant to live the rest of my life without the love of a man not only for me but for my children and she will continue to empower others to move beyond the 11th don fratangelo nbc news needham massachusetts this is nbc nightly news with john siegenthaler reporting tonight from ground zero good evening from ground zero on this eve of september 11th tonight america begins a long and difficult look back five years later from our position 10 floors up in lower manhattan you can see just across the street the vast empty space where the world trade center once stood now considered hallowed ground the deep holes here are a reminder of that terrible day in september when terrorists turned passenger jets into bombs this afternoon president bush visited the site laying wreaths where the two towers once stood then attended a memorial service we begin

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attended a memorial service we begin with nbc's chief white house correspondent david gregory who's with us here at ground zero good evening david good evening john tonight the president begins a somber 24 hours as he leads the country in commemorating the 9 11 attacks even as he and his administration vigorously defend how they've conducted the war on terror five years later a silent tribute the president and

first lady lee reads tonight at ground zero small pools of water marked the spot where the north and south towers of the world trade center once stood mr bush remains in new york to meet tomorrow with firefighters and families of the victims before traveling to the other scenes of 9 11's horror shanksville pennsylvania and the pentagon tomorrow night the president will address the nation from the oval office it has been five years since the president first came to ground zero i can hear you the rest of the world hears you and the people [Applause] and the people who knock these buildings down will hear all of us soon but five years later the country is in a fierce debate about the president's path after the attacks from afghanistan to iraq to surveillance at home and the detention of prisoners overseas today appearing on nbc's meet the press for the first time in three years vice president cheney insisted the country is safer we're here on the fifth anniversary and there has not been another attack on the united states and that's not an accident because we've done a hell of a job here at home in terms of homeland security still the vice president for the first time made an important concession about the war on terror now the president has been asked what did iraq have to do with the attack on the world trade center and he said nothing do you agree with that i do so it's not case closed we've never been able to confirm any connection between iraq and

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confirm any connection between iraq and 9 11. and was challenged by tim russert about his claim that american troops would be greeted as quote liberators in iraq i think there's no question about what we did not anticipate an insurgency that would last this long mr chaney's appearance today as well as mr bush's interview with matt lauer to air tomorrow on today both sides had amid all of the commemoration of 911 this administration will vigorously defend its contact of the war conduct i should say of the war on terror just two months now john before an important midterm election and david what can we expect to hear from the president tomorrow night i think it's going to be consistent with what you've heard the president talk about this past week he's reflecting on what 9 11 has meant to the country but he's also looked forward and talked about the consequences of this war on terror that goes forward it becomes a very political speech very quickly because of the choice the country faces in this midterm election nbc david gregory david thanks very much on this day before 9 11 and every day of the year many are drawn to this spot in lower manhattan they come here to see the place where it happened and to pay their respects here's nbc's pat dawson it is a congregation of strangers come each day to stand in the shadow of a shared memory even though it happened five years ago it feels like it happened yesterday it's sad it's just real sad i think it's just the memories of all the people here you can see some people are grieving on a sunday morning as on most days the clamor of new york city suddenly gives way to stillness and reverence there are pictures on one memorial wall faces frozen in fear and wonder and resignation only the fear is missing on faces now i've never felt anything like it before there's a very subdued calm here peter hartel and his wife came from canada it doesn't really highlight any particular figures creates i think a very impressionable memorial of

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thousands of individuals who are effectively nameless rosemary kane is part of a group of survivors relatives and local residents who offer guided walks of ground zero to visitors her son george a new york city firefighter lost his life here it's a very sacred place ground zero it's a holy sacred place and it's a testament to man and to human nature for the thousands who come to ground zero remembrance takes many forms but among those we spoke to all expressed a sense of belonging to something a sense of community to join with maggie murphy and sarah chernov around there was a lot of folks just kind of consoling one another a congregation of strangers in a shared faith of remembrance grief and hope pat dawson nbc news new york over the past five years this site has been transformed from the smoldering wreckage after the attack to the painstaking removal that swept the site clean all the way down to the bedrock nearly two million tons of debris have been hauled away and the site is ready for new buildings this is what the vision of what will rise here by the year 2012 the freedom tower and three skyscrapers built around the twin pools of the september 11th memorial now after 9 11 americans were told to defy the terrorists by returning to their normal routines but in the past five years so much has changed nbc's rahim alice has that story for the two million americans who fly each day september 11th changed almost everything tighter security longer lines no shoes and now

no toothpaste no deodorant no water the government has spent 20 billion dollars in the last five years to upgrade security in the nation's 441 commercial airports at chicago's o'hare frequent flyer mark o'rourke knows the risks every time he gets on a

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knows the risks every time he gets on a plane i know terrorism is real and there are real victims and these are real threats is that 20 or 26. the anxiety is even greater for military families like the dooleys in fort bragg north carolina life after 9 11 has meant life without dad i really miss him and i wish you could stay here with us first sergeant scott dooley has spent three of the last four years on duty in the middle east the holidays the graduations and all that you have to plan that he won't be there and being here in the united states is now far more complicated for seven million muslims fighting a personal battle of perception fazel bake for example says he was forced to find another job after an offer to work as a pilot was withdrawn when told he was a security risk vague filed a lawsuit claiming he was denied the job because he's a muslim and of pakistani dissent i'm absolutely disgusted with this because of the fact that i know i'm a good american and and i belong here i live here while people will always remember what happened here at ground zero the nation was asked to return to normal and not let the shock of 9 11 alter their lives many people have done just that the rhythms of their daily life in schools in homes and businesses are pretty much back to what they were before which i don't think we ever would have predicted at the time 9 11 happened still many americans like the vagues and the dooleys are reminded of 911 every day rehema ellis nbc news new york so five years later where is osama bin laden audio and video of bin laden continues the latest showing up just last week in this morning's washington post correspondent and nbc news national security analyst dana priest reports the hunt for bin laden has gone stone cold dana priest joins us tonight from washington dana how has been a lot of been able to vanish almost without a trace well several ways

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almost without a trace well several ways john first of all was hard to begin with because of the rough terrain in all the caves but after two years there's been nothing like a close call no tips from informants no snippets from intercepts no points on a satellite image that have led the us commanders anywhere close to catching him the cia never managed to cultivate many informants and neither they nor the military teams can operate freely in pakistan pakistan has pretty much stopped the hunt because it's politically risky and bin laden has stopped communicating in ways that can be picked up by technology so dana where does the search stand right now well actually about three months ago the intelligence community vastly expanded the resources that it's using to hunt bin laden putting hundreds of more officers on the job so there's a renewed effort but no one believes it'll be easy down a priest in washington for us tonight donna thank you thank you now as we remember 9 11 in this country there is a much different view in the arab world there appears to be a growing resentment of the u.s that threatens to undermine the war on terror from his listening post in beirut here's nbc's jim masoda from cairo to riyadh to beirut arab pollsters and pundits warn the arab street is angry the wave of hostility or negative attitudes towards the united states right now five years after september 11 is much more higher than it that than the case has been five years ago what squandered the arabs positive feelings towards the us right after 9 11. mostly the invasion of iraq and the arab perception of unquestioning u.s support for israel these are not radical views experts say but are shared by a majority of arabs including these graduates at the american university of beirut we love your institutions but we hate your policies is america winning the war on terror they're losing the war because they are feeding more to the frustration of the

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feeding more to the frustration of the arab islamic people and what may shock many americans even arab professionals like jameel marui editor of beirut's english language newspaper the daily star believe al qaeda may serve a dark purpose america is looked at as the rabid tiger and perhaps al-qaeda from that point of view is is liked because it gets at the tiger if mainstream arabs reject the extremist goals of al qaeda analysts

say they have increasingly embraced other militant groups like hezbollah or hamas to vent their anger against the bush administration in response the u.s government has tried to win arab hearts and minds sponsoring pro-us radio and tv programs in arabic you'd be very happy and you know feel connected to the u.s people but when you look at the behavior of the u.s government i mean it's it's a problem how to turn our public opinion around the arab street says that's impossible for now jimmy satan nbc news beirut and now to the man responsible for the 9 11 attacks despite a 25 million reward offer the united states has been unable to bring in osama bin laden dead or alive tonight nbc news senior investigative correspondent lisa myers has exclusive details on the frustrating manhunt for the mastermind this modest building in islamabad was for a time the target of a secret cia operation to capture osama bin laden it's the local office of al jazeera tv couriers dropped off two tapes from bin laden here offering one of the few clues to where he might be the only connection that bin laden has that we know with the outside world is through video and audio tapes so u.s

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is through video and audio tapes so u.s counter-terror sources tell nbc news that the cia mounted an elaborate covert operation to track back those tapes through multiple handoffs by couriers to bin laden sources say the cia traced this 2004 bin laden tape back to a village in pakistan where they captured a mid-level al-qaeda figure but no bin laden at the national counter terrorism center bin laden remains the number one target of the war on terror every morning top counter terror officials meet in this room to review the latest intelligence including any new information on bin laden senior officials acknowledge that the last time they knew with certainty where bin laden was in real time was before 9 11. specifically the fall of 2000 when a c i a predator drone beamed this footage back live from afghanistan the tall man in white robes is believed to be bin laden recently the search has centered on pakistan's chitral valley home to madrassas that foment radicalism is the trail to bin laden cold i would have to say that it probably is this top counter terror official says the emphasis on finding bin laden overlooks important successes our intelligence has gotten better our operations have gotten better so al qaeda is we've basically set them back under heel he argues that despite five years of frustration bin laden's ability to mount attacks has been substantially diminished on that day five years ago our next two guests here played an important role in the lives of many people in this city and across the country each for different reasons and in different ways the leadership that mayor rudolph giuliani showed on that day and therefore led to his unofficial title of america's mayor tom brokaw was on the air for hours and then for days telling our anxious viewers what we knew and what we didn't know and both gentlemen have been kind enough to join

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gentlemen have been kind enough to join us here tonight thank you for being with us and mr mayor we'll start with you the mayor of new orleans got in a little trouble lately but a lot of new yorkers thought he had a point maybe he chose the wrong words is it at all an embarrassment that people who want to come to visit pay their respects have no memorial to visit five years now i mean probably better if there was more progress that was made but i have to tell you brian you know there are things that have happened since september 11 that surprised me and some that haven't it doesn't surprise me that it hasn't been done yet why not because i knew how complicated it would be how emotionally complicated this is uh so many people have been personally affected by this they all have their own ideas of what should be done some people want no memorial some people want a grand soaring memorial some people want office buildings that i think cutting through all that has been very has been very very difficult and somebody from oklahoma city told me this maybe three or four days after it happens a group from oklahoma city came up and they said it took them about i think five six seven years to sort of get it to get it together and they said it's gonna be more complicated for you so i wish it had been done but i'm not surprised that it hasn't and tom as a longtime new yorker you know that feeling we had in those days that followed strangers hugging strangers and applauding firefighters how much of that is still do you find in the air here well i think when you come to this site or think about that day that is very much the case in new york new york of course is famous for having differences with one another and the rest of the world for that matter but around this they do coalesce now there are

sharp political differences about what's happened since 9 11 not just here but across the country and i think as you go across america people who felt so connected to new york on that day feel more of a distance from it now and like the war itself they're it's complex their set of feelings they're a little confused about what does iraq have to do with it are we making progress how does this end where does it end your march uptown mr mayor in the dust though not planned as a media moment lifted up the city on that day anything

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lifted up the city on that day anything you'd you'd take back or do over was anything anything that you could have done sure if you could absolutely i mean first of all if you could have anticipated the airplanes coming into the building well beyond that or even the scope of it i mean we we had we had uh been planning for uh for a terrorist attack for six or seven years and but i don't think we ever all the all the drills that we did exercises this was three times larger than anything we have that was the national failure of imagination it was us too i mean we we uh our our command center was one-third as large as it should be we had to go find one that was three times the size it kind of reflected in what happened with 9-1-1 9-1-1 was overwhelmed that's the biggest 9-1-1 system in the country it couldn't handle couldn't handle that i think the city has learned those lessons i think mayor bloomberg has sort of built things out if there is a next time things will be three times larger now given the way these terrorists operate maybe next time they'll do an attack that's five times larger who knows i mean which is what i kind of think they're waiting for i think they're waiting for another what they call spectacular attack might not be here it might be someplace else but this hasn't ended and when i when i was reflecting on the fifth anniversary of the attacks of september 11 i think we can fall into the illusion that this is consigned to history this is still going on it was going on in london you know a year ago i was there half a block away the bomb goes off at the liverpool station two months ago or a month ago they they uncovered this part to blow up 11 airplanes these people still want to come back here and do it again and whether we whether it's a different kind of war or not and it is a different kind of war we are at war i mean but it's hard to hard to see it and hard to feel it but we are at war tom and the time remaining is this the formative event of a generation any debate oh i don't think there's any question about that uh america was changed but it was the most serious attack in this country but we have to remember shanksville and the pentagon as well it was an attack not just on new york

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it was an attack not just on new york city but it was an attack on all that we stand for the western ideals of law and modernity and pluralism and those are the big issues and the question is how do we get at the roots of that rage not just militarily but otherwise ryan that's a great challenge for this generation gentlemen thank you both thank you and thank you for your coverage tom thank you it was uh of incredible help to us thank you here here oh that's very nice our cover now we switch to this day of remembrance the 7th anniversary of 9 11. a chilly wind blew as a crowd gather in shanksville pennsylvania where united airlines flight 93 crashed into that open field at the pentagon the first national memorial to 9 11 victims was dedicated today a series of benches devoted to each of the 184 people who died when american airlines flight 77 went down and in new york at the world trade center site which seven years later is still a mostly bear construction site bells told families of the victims made their way past a memorial pool they clutched photos of their loved ones as the names of the almost three thousand who died were read aloud later in the day both presidential candidates arrived to pay their respects with 54 days left in the closely fought election campaign today was primarily not a day for politics our report from nbc's andrea mitchell it is a day so solemn it transcends politics barack obama and john mccain walked side by side into the pit at ground zero there together to honor the dead and console the living for this one day instead of verbal combat single long-stemmed roses of remembrance by mutual agreement a time out from speeches surrogates spin and tv ads earlier in shanksville pennsylvania mccain paid tribute to the crew of united flight 93 no american living then should ever forget the heroism that occurred in the skies above this

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that occurred in the skies above this field on september 11 2001. more than an anniversary 911 is a crucible for political leaders and the people who knock these buildings down will hear all of us soon and a test for future commanders in chief barack obama sees iraq as a costly detour the big difference between myself and george bush i think would have been to stay focused on afghanistan not get distracted by iraq john mccain sees iraq as the central front in the war on terror while still promising to find osama bin laden if i'm president united states my friends if i have to follow him to the gates of hell i will get osama bin laden and bring him to justice sarah palin back home in alaska now has a personal stake in iraq today her eldest son track was deploying from fort wainwright serve with honor soldiers make america proud in fact three of the four candidates mccain biden and palin will all have sons in iraq within weeks republicans have long used 911 as a wedge issue against democrats portraying them as weak on national security this year that has changed as america has wearied of the iraq war and evidence amounts that the bush administration mishandled the hunt for bin laden despite today's anniversary politics did briefly intrude in harlem after months of tension of peace making lunch between obama and bill clinton we're putting them to work frequently yeah well i've agreed to do a substantial number of things or whatever i'm asked to do and tonight obama and mccain will come together again sharing a stage briefly to discuss public service before resuming political combat tomorrow andrea mitchell nbc news new york bursary of the terrorist attacks of 9 11. earlier we saw mccain and obama visiting ground zero which is still outwardly just an open construction site in the ground many have questioned why there hasn't

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many have questioned why there hasn't been more progress at what has become a national scar that may be changing now as we learned tonight from nbc's mike taibi the energy in what they call the whole is palpable these days and construction workers like brian lyons who's worked nowhere else since 9 11. when are they going to port us can see the goal they've held aloft these years finally coming into view i was completely committed to stay here at ground zero until this place was completely rebuilt lyons has a special motivation his 32 year old firefighter brother michael perished in this place of heroism and death a sight lions has come to every working day since that day i've been in the hole i have 10 pairs of boots worn out over the years evaporating completion dates and fly away cost projections have caused many to wonder why so important a project as this one seems so stuck but the trade center manager alan reese who almost died himself that day definitely turned a corner here on this 7th anniversary the project feels unstuck every spot on the site has active construction going on now you can see the freedom tower poking above street level now the foundations for the other towers the path train running through the beginnings of a new transportation hub the facing of the memorial and museum now taking shape there's nothing in our plan that says you can't do this it's this isn't buildable which is exactly what brian lyons says he's believed all along this reconstruction of the world trade center and ground zero is a tribute to my brother all the people that were lost at 9 11 all of new york city and all of america and it needs to get done and it needs to get done no guarantees on when and at what cost the billboards will have to be replaced again but the hole is being filled you can see it you can feel it mike taibi nbc news new

[00:38:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJu4GSnv-jA&t=2282s)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJu4GSnv-jA&t=2282s)

you can feel it mike taibi nbc news new york ryan williams good evening we are a much different country today than we were in the immediate aftermath of 9 11 while we are still fighting two wars launched in its immediate aftermath and while thankfully we have remained safe we aren't as skittish as we were right after 9 11. that is until something happens like it did today during the 9 11 memorial in washington an urgent story broke on television about an incident on the potomac river not far from where the president was at the pentagon outbound flights were halted at washington's airport and tensions were high until we learned it was a false alarm the day went on from there sad memorials here in new york washington pennsylvania and elsewhere many of them in a soaking rain but the tone was set our justice correspondent pete williams starts us off from the banks of the potomac in washington tonight pete good evening brian this is memorial bridge over the potomac and as the president's motorcade was driving back and forth across it this morning something was going on nearby that sent ripples of alarm across the capitol for the crews of the u.s coast

guard's fast patrol boats it was a normal day a routine training drill like this one on the potomac river between two washington bridges and not far from the pentagon a national airport as part of the drill a coast guardsman said on an open marine radio channel that a suspicious boat refused in order to stop bang bang bang said one of the exercise participants there is other news that we need to get out to you in fact

00:40:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJu4GSnv-jA&t=2401s)

out to you in fact breaking news right now a few minutes later cnn hearing the radio call and seeing coast guard boats maneuvering reported that shots had in fact been fired this is pretty incredible i i have to say that as the story is developing here and i learned that rounds had actually been fired based strictly on the news reports the fbi scrambled a response team and nearby national airports stopped all takeoffs for nearly half an hour delaying 17 flights but there was no suspicious boat on the river no shots were ever fired it was all a drill the coast guard said it owed no apology we're charged with 7 by 24 365 all day every day all weather security and safety on the maritime interests the national capital region we train every day but homeland security secretary janet napolitano who oversees the coast guard ordered a complete review and the coast guard said it would look into conducting such a visible training mission while president obama was traveling back and forth across the river on the day of the 9 11 anniversary this is very instructive for us and we're going to back through this we're going to review our own protocols our own procedures happening in the potomac but the white house spokesman said the reporting made matters worse i do wish that some of the people that reported that incident might have taken a little bit of time to check and see whether what they were reporting was accurate tonight cnn says it would have been irresponsible for this anniversary a bronze plaque wasn't there city on edge brian pete williams in washington for us to start us off tonight pete thanks and now to the day itself eight years after the worst terrorist attack in u.s history and the natural and fair question how much has changed our report tonight from nbc's ron allen eight years later president obama marked his first september 11th anniversary as commander-in-chief

00:42:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJu4GSnv-jA&t=2520s)

commander-in-chief with a moment of silence at the time the first plane struck at the pentagon where 184 benches honored those killed there the president vowed to renew the fight against those responsible defense of our nation we will never waver in pursuit of al qaeda and its extremist allies we will never falter however osama bin laden is still free and public support for that war in afghanistan is declining martinez september 11 families eight years later face other disappointments they gathered in the field in pennsylvania where 40 died fighting the hijackers of united flight 93 but there's still no memorial there just two days before this anniversary a bronze plaque was unveiled at the capitol where the flight seemed headed to mark that fateful day i love you forever catholic and i miss you eight years later the grief is still raw maxima john pierre who worked on 154 of the north tower volunteers stood by the families this anniversary for the first time had been declared a national day of service by the president you still feel the loss i don't think it ever goes away linda mcgee and brother stanley alexander attend each year they lost a sister brenda like many their disappointed ground zero remains a vast open scar the big hole filled only by a commuter rail station no memorial here as well it seems like maybe they should have been a little further along but the most recent plan is to build four office towers here surrounding a tree-lined plaza with a museum and memorial in the center a plan years behind schedule because of seemingly endless political and financial disputes and delays the goal now to at least have a memorial open by 2011 the 10th anniversary however today many still struggled with this anniversary and the deep sense of loss that probably will never go away ron allen nbc news new york

00:44:03 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJu4GSnv-jA&t=2643s)

we're back and as we noted tomorrow marks the ninth anniversary of 9 11. so tonight we want to introduce you to a man who is trying to turn that day into a lesson something useful for future generations he is the co-founder of something called the tribute center near the world trade center site and he wants to make the complete story of what happened on 9 11 required reading in this nation's schools we get his story tonight from nbc's mike tybee in rural phillipsburg kansas 1300 miles from ground zero the high school day began as

usual wednesday morning and then for some students took an unusual turn so we turned on the tv and then we watched the day unfold that day 9 11 when most of these students were seven or eight-year-old grade school kids whose teachers sought to protect them from the unfolding horror they really didn't want to talk about it that much but if little was said then and much was forgotten or never known a detail this pilot course in the history of 9 11 is intended to change them get yourself let's go we're getting a call so this is jonathan's helmet the curriculum was created by retired firefighter lee ialpi whose son jonathan was one of the more than 300 firefighters who died on 9 11. some 2 million visitors have come through the tribute center including phillipsburg teacher sherry chester answered amid the terrible images some difficult questions addressed how do you talk about radicalism as opposed to good islamic people he's explored the answers himself with muslims who are among his colleagues but even though ilp says so many teachers have come through the tribute center and said i've got to get this to my students it just hasn't happened and 11 has to be taught he says well these students might only learn history through the prism of a day's headlines they're learning uh what somebody in florida may say about the koran and burning the koran instead of real history even if it's painful history to keep it

[00:46:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJu4GSnv-jA&t=2762s)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJu4GSnv-jA&t=2762s)

even if it's painful history to keep it from being repeated we don't forget the holocaust we don't forget slavery we educate we teach it these students say they get it we have to learn about this we have to know why it happened what we can do to prevent it exactly my son is not going to come back if i hate i would rather do something more progressive i would rather think about tomorrow but today just one middle of a and we have news just breaking at this hour tonight about all those firefighters those first responders who rushed to ground zero and then continued to work on the pile as they called it after the 9 11 attacks from the very first hours of rescue efforts at the world trade center site many feared and common sense dictated that the fumes and dust contain chemicals that could cause cancer and other diseases and now tonight a study from the fire department of new york and several medical schools finding the frightening evidence that those firefighters who worked at the scene are indeed being diagnosed with cancer and the experts say the problem is likely to get worse our report tonight from our chief science correspondent robert bazelle the fire department of new york studied the health of its members and retired members extensively before and after 9 11. in only the first seven years after the attack firefighters exposed to the dust and smoke surrounding the world trade center site had 19 percent more cancers than those who were not exposed they made a commitment to us when they ran into those buildings we've made a commitment to them we're going to continue to collect and study these answers kenny speck now 43 fought the flames on 9 11 and worked on the rescue and recovery effort for another month in 2007 he developed

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for another month in 2007 he developed thyroid cancer and retired from the department soon after when i found out what i had i knew right away and i told them that we were going to have a problem i told them that we were that there was a wave of of of illness that they had to prepare for this is the world trade center site today in the hours and weeks after the attack the burning pile released many chemicals known to cause cancer and other illnesses a separate study out today of 27 000 rescue workers fines in excess of many physical and psychiatric diseases there's no excess deaths yet but officials expect that will happen as for the firefighters the department says it must concentrate on early detection and treatment and fears the cancer cases will increase with time we can never take 911 away but we can start and continue an aggressive cancer prevention and cancer screening program another fallout from 911 for new york's bravest that will contain terrorists have considered renting private planes and loading them with explosives in washington the smithsonian museum of american history is marking the september 11th anniversary with a unique exhibit this week only it's an intimate display of simple objects left behind on that day nbc's amy roback spent some time with the curator a passenger seat belt and call button from flight 93 a new york firefighter's ash covered jacket a stairwell sign from the 102nd floor of the world trade center items once part of people's daily lives

now hallmarks of that tragic day 10 years ago two planes have crashed into the towers the smithsonian has collected more than 300 artifacts from the iconic like this mangled fire truck door from squad one in brooklyn it talked not just about the destruction

00:50:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJu4GSnv-jA&t=3000s)

it talked not just about the destruction that day but also of the heroism and the sacrifice of the fire department to those wrenching with intimacy this purse belongs to lorraine lee and she did not survive these are her car keys her business card which clearly says she worked at the trade towers it's a metro card she might have used to get to work that day curator peter leibold worked to collect what was left of flight 93 after its heroic crew and passengers successfully rested control from those hijackers and there's an emotional impact when you see these and especially this right here this is a small piece of fuselage every united plane over the rear exit door has a small small flag turned and ripped but but still intact flight attendant lorraine bay's husband donated her flight manual found among the wreckage flight attendants are extremely trained personnel you can see her handwritten notes on this chilling page this is the instructions on what to do in case of a bomb battalion chief joseph pfeiffer was one of the first to reach the world trade center back his turnout coat he donated his bunker code in memory of the 343 firefighters who died that day including his brother lieutenant kevin pfeiffer his pry bar was found among the debris it's the tooth that my brother carried as he went into the into the burning buildings the chief hopes these artifacts will serve as a legacy for the future i think what i would like the next generation to do is to think about the stories personal stories of bravery and courage of really caring for the fellow human beings stories told by ordinary objects connecting us all to the extraordinary moments of september 11th amy robach nbc news

00:52:07 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJu4GSnv-jA&t=3127s)

as we count down now to the 10th anniversary of 911 tonight we're getting our first listen to new and chilling reminders of what it was like that day in real time specifically for the air traffic controllers tracking those aircraft the audio tapes you're about to hear are part of a newly published collection originally prepared for the 911 commission but not released until now tonight our justice correspondent pete williams tells us about some of these voices of 9 11. on a bright morning in boston american airlines flight 11 takes off for los angeles and acknowledges its directions the last it's heard from american 11 turned 20 degrees right let me write american 11. this is boston i turned american 20 left and i was going to climb he will not respond to me now then the airline itself contacts controllers i am monitoring a call in which flight 11 the flight attendant is advising our rep that the pilot everyone's been stabbed soon after the voice of hijacker muhammad [Music] controllers and other pilots soon realize more planes have been hijacked so i can't get a hold of the united 175 at all right now but i don't know where he went to hey can you look out your window right now you see guy look is he the same for the building [Music] to the south near washington a third plane goes missing american 77 american indie radio check caddie raiden a nearby pilot reports seeing it crash

00:54:06 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJu4GSnv-jA&t=3246s)

then the pilot of the fourth plane hijacked makes a desperate radio call and soon disappears from radar [Music] you got united 93. we hear some funny noises we're trying to get him keep having now there is a report of black smoke in the last position i gave you 15 miles south of johnstown near the recording's end a military radio call reflects the sobering reality and brian as we prepare for the 9 11 anniversary this weekend there's new information tonight that has the administration concerned over the last several days they've been monitoring what they call the chatter the intake of intelligence and in the last 24 hours they've picked up what they consider to be a specific piece of information but it's unconfirmed it's internally uh contradictory and there are meetings tonight trying to decide how seriously to take this whether to make it public there is even a discussion under underway right now about whether to invoke the homeland security's new elevated terror threat level no decision about this my sense is they'll probably tell local police about this to be wary of it but so far no decision to make it public and of course this is what we used to call the new normal now it's just normal people won't know how they should act differently other than being vigilant all right we'll look for more

reporting on it again just emerging tonight this was the scene hundreds of workers at world trade center pausing for a moment of silence this morning as a giant flag was unfurled on the new one world trade trade center tower that is under construction there rising above lower manhattan tom brokaw spent over a hundred hours at the anchor desk after the 9 11 attacks and two weeks after that day he wrote a piece for the new york times that turned into a kind of prediction quote this new war on terrorism will be fought less conventionally

00:56:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJu4GSnv-jA&t=3361s)

fought less conventionally and it could lead us into a deep recession and he asked quote will the surge of bipartisan spirit endure washing away the pettiness that devalues public life and alienates voters we got our answer to that that was back on september 28 2001. here we are september 9th 2011. tom is back with us and tom the question i want answered is this did the only thing comparable in american life is pearl harbor did did this change our generation and our people more than that attack changed the american people back i don't think so because then it was all in it was world war ii the entire world was at stake i think one of the big differences between then and now of course is that nothing much was asked to the rest of us after 9 11 who stayed at home those who went into uniform and fought the wars in iraq and afghanistan less than one percent of the population took a hundred percent of the bullets for us so that is a significant difference world war ii everybody was involved they joined up and at home they gave up things uh they stopped manufacturing consumer goods so that they could build more material new kinds of airplanes everybody every night was conscious of what was going on in the war so we have not been that in this case and of course we'll all pause on sunday you and i will be down there together uh and but you write about our cancerous divisive politics and we see what happened ten years later well i think one of the opportunities that this anniversary may give us because we're gonna start hearing this story tonight on dateline of the survivors and of the family members who lost someone and in every case man woman and child they said to me it was a an emotional blow that i'll never recover from but i decided to have a better life more focused and more meaningful now if they can do that given the dimension of their loss it ought to be a signal to the rest of the country and especially to washington both sides about how we can go forward from here this is a time

00:58:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJu4GSnv-jA&t=3480s)

this is a time that's what memorials are about and anniversaries of reflection what do we reflect on how do we take stock of who we are and the best lessons are in those people who went through the worship of brian well uh tom i as i mentioned i'll see you uh sunday morning and uh you mentioned the dateline special we wanted to let you know tom is hosting five years ago on the fifth anniversary of 9 11 we visited a somber and chilling hangar at jfk airport here in new york it was filled with debris from ground zero the steel wreckage of the world trade center as well as crushed fire engines and other vehicles now that hanger is nearly empty and that steel has all been distributed all across this country which means no matter where you live a piece of 911 is nearby tonight we hear about how it's all happened from those working to preserve the memories of that day in their own words all of it is evidence of a crime they were brought out here to hangar 17 an old airline hangar here at jfk airport physical remains of the day will be preserved and honored in a dignified way for generations that's good right there i'm bill baronick and i'm one of the people helping to bring pieces of steel to 911 memorials across the country and around the world left at 2 a.m this morning in my life it was the worst day ever i'm chief jim grow with brown city area fire and rescue we're a very small community farming community in michigan the best beans you can get we're not as big as new york but we're still just as proud to be part of the fire service being here today put a whole new perspective on their job as well as ours it's gut wrenching speechless it's on its way to home home forever i was six years old and a teacher came

01:00:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJu4GSnv-jA&t=3601s)

i was six years old and a teacher came in to talk to our teacher and they told her to turn on the television i remember seeing smoke coming up and it just didn't seem real it seemed like it seemed like a video game or something i'm cecilia lauren beavers it's an honor to have it here it reflects who we are and what we what we

live for truly the freedom that we have and how we have to keep fighting for it a part of what happened in history that will always be remembered is important to us it's history it's a touchdown my name is sergio mari uh captain for the creme fire department we uh deployed 11 days after the incident my name is jeff place zach at the time was four-year-old chocolate lab the hardest part for me was the families asking us to look for their loved ones stuff with pictures of their loved ones you know in our gear as we're walking along i wear this faithfully since i got back from new york this is a very big day for lindbergh [Music] limburg is one of those places where people really step up in a time of need a lot of people because of the railroad worked in new york city and unfortunately that also led to a lot of loss on 9 11. my name is jennifer muller i live in limburg new york and my brother was michael hannon i'd like to believe he never knew what hit him i lost my uncle and godfather that day he was really fun i remember that he'd hold us upside down because we were little enough and he would have been a lot of fun today too i'm dan muller i'm from limb brook i'm part of boy scout crew 336 and uh this is my eagle project you know plant a little garden here i think michael would look at danny and

01:02:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJu4GSnv-jA&t=3721s)

i think michael would look at danny and make it for you [Music] it happened in new york but it was felt across the country and so i think all those little pieces can help hold us together and remember what actually happened the changing landscape behind me is vivid testament to our nation's resilience we took a staggering blow that day 10 years ago and we got back on our feet still at times it seems nothing has been the same since for months later we asked each other where were you on 9 11 10 years later the more interesting question is how did it change you think twice before i get on a plane subway train if the turbulent 60s robbed us of our innocence 911 stole the final shred of security we felt at home it changed us it's really changed how we you know sort of approached the future some things were a given we all knew flying would never be the same for the passengers but also for the people who flew us one thing i can talk about in general turns is the federal flight deck officer program armed pilots defending the cockpit we also expected there would be a military response this most americans agreed could not go unpunished but two wars one still going 10 years later it's transformed our military and cast a heavy burden on a relative few the young kids and garden reserve who are frequently older we've asked a great deal for them and they've delivered but but after a while the machine runs runs out of gas our intelligence agency saw a different world too forcing a fundamental realignment of government

01:04:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJu4GSnv-jA&t=3841s)

realignment of government there was patriot act an intelligence are a department of homeland security were added as we wrestled with redefining american justice we have guantanamo we have people in detention who are not going to go through civilian courts but we are getting much better at understanding how to prosecute individuals i think 911 gave way to a lot of prejudices that may not have been there before the killing of bin laden earlier this year answered a lingering demand for justice but a would-be shoe bomber an underwear bomber the slaughter of soldiers at fort hood a failed attack on times square have continued to eat away at our collective security and it has all changed us in ways both expected and not it brought me closer to my family it made me that's what the small thing is we are all one people it's one world and we have to live in one world that's my thoughts thank you [Music] finally tonight the stories of 9 11 and a groundbreaking effort to preserve them as part of the story core audio project survivors and family and friends of those who died interview each other and each recording is archived at the library of congress tonight nbc's peter alexander was some of the memories you're i miss her eyes her eyes sparkled to me then this is how it's preserved forever new york i was standing in the middle of five people and uh i'm the only one that survived here in lower manhattan in a small radio booth hundreds have shared their stories of 911 an extraordinary project produced by the non-profit group storycorps to create a kind of audio time capsule of memories you said there was something wrong with pop-up that made me scared i remember that mikey told me that

01:06:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJu4GSnv-jA&t=3960s)

i remember that mikey told me that planes crashed and he wasn't coming back five years ago frankie devito and his mom diana shared their story about his grandfather bill stackman diana says that experience helped her son heal i just felt so proud like proud that he still had all the memories and you know he got to spend quality time with my dad and not everybody gets that story core's goal to collect at least one story for every person who died that day beverly eckert remembered her husband sean rooney it's about 9 30 a.m when he called they told me he was on 105th floor and he had been trying to find a way out i asked if it hurt for him to breathe and he paused for a moment and then said no he loved me enough to lie although there are survivor stories too greta muirholtz and her husband keith spoke about his narrow escape from the north tower the tower had fallen and i thought that was it i kind of gave up hope unfortunately i didn't wait too long to call that shortly after you called and uh i picked up the phone and you just said gret i'm alive if i get really really mad at him i just think back about the feelings that i had that you know that day and until i heard from him so and for those like frankie devito if you could talk to him right now what would you want to say i love you and there's no other grandfather i'd rather see than you the memories never fade i think about you every day and you'll always be in my heart forever peter alexander nbc news new york that's nbc nightly news for this saturday reminder our special 911 coverage begins tomorrow morning thousands of americans devoted today to paying tribute to thousands we lost [Music]

01:08:03 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJu4GSnv-jA&t=4083s)

[Music] at the pentagon and in western pennsylvania tonight honoring those who were taken from us on this day that will always be with us america remembers this is nbc nightly news with brian williams reporting from ground zero good evening just a few hours from now it will be september 12th and will be beyond this awful day on the calendar for another year it's a great evening here in new york city of course this september 11th was different it's now been a full decade since the morning when hell rained down on earth from the sky and changed all of our lives forever so today in the places where it happened back then here in new york and in washington and pennsylvania tens of thousands of people gathered to mark the darkest day in modern american history that field in pennsylvania has regrown the pentagon was fixed a year later here in new york however it still looks like a bit of a crater even though now this space at least contains a proper memorial that the families got to visit just today and that's where we begin our coverage of this day's events with lester holt what a day it was here what a day brian 2983 names were read aloud here at ground zero today that was the combined total of those who died on 9 11 and in the 93 world trade center bombing the reading of the names interrupted six times by moments of silence to mark the key moments of destruction on 9 11. for the first time since the attack the september 11 sun rose in new york city over a permanent memorial to the victims of 911 where waterfalls now spill into the footprints of the twin towers mirroring the tears that flowed on this anniversary jill ann metzler and my dad michael bach

01:10:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJu4GSnv-jA&t=4202s)

jill ann metzler and my dad michael bach former first lady laura bush wept as wives husbands parents and children some too young to remember their moms or dads told us who they lost and my father sebastian gorky who i never met because i was in my mom's belly others told us what they lost i wish my dad had been there to teach me how to drive ask a girl out on a date and see me graduate from high school the president and mrs obama began their visit to all three attack sites greeting the family of victims in new york god is our refuge and strength later the president read a biblical passage former president bush quoted another wartime president abraham lincoln in offering his own consolation i pray that our heavenly father may assuage the anguish of your bereavement and leave you only the cherished memory of the loved and lost well the sun is surely sinking down singer james taylor performed but the moon is slowly rising hello darkness my girlfriend as did paul simon to the strains of sound of silence families filed into the memorial and saw for the first time the names of their loved ones permanently etched in bronze and the vision that was [Music] these grounds are the final resting place for many of those who died on 9 11. michael patrick eichen i never got remains of my michael and for me this is the place that i want to honor him john a katsumatides i am really sad by the fact that he's

01:12:03 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJu4GSnv-jA&t=4323s)

am really sad by the fact that he's among one of the deceased obviously but at the same time i'm so grateful that his name will be forever preserved you know in bronze as they have every year bell's told at the moment of impact 9 37 was the moment american flight 77 struck the pentagon killing 184 people [Music] good morning vice president biden paid tribute to the pentagon victims but also to those who answer the country's call to arms after 9 11. many of them are just kids on that bright september morning but like their grandparents on december 7 1941 they courageously bore the burden that history had placed on their shoulders the bells told again at 1003 at the moment united flight 93 crashed in the pennsylvania countryside my lovely mother my beautiful sister cece ross there were 40 names to read in shanksville 40 names now etched into a wall [Music] when we are weary and in need of strength we remember them the president laid a wreath here before ending his day back in washington where he laid another wreath at the pentagon and spent time with family members [Music] back in new york the one world trade center tower quickly rises above the ground a symbol of recovery time has healed this landscape but it does not heal all the wounds of 9 11. the 9 11 memorial opens to the public by

01:14:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJu4GSnv-jA&t=4440s)

the 9 11 memorial opens to the public by reservations tomorrow and brian i talked to a couple of family members who plan to be here tomorrow to greet visitors and to share their stories as we said what a day here today lester thanks and you saw the president walking around the grounds here after he toured it he said this memorial was fitting and he said it quote meets the moment just yesterday at the white house i talked with the president about his personal recollections of that day 9 11 10 years ago we were driving down lake shore drive i was driving down to go to a meeting in the state building and heard the first report about a plane going into the towers and assumed it was a cessna or somebody who'd uh who'd had an accident by the time i parked my car and got into the the meeting that i was attending the reports were starting to come in that this had been a jet liner and that many people had been killed at that point we started evacuating the building and then going to my law office and watching you know the towers come down and you know the images of people falling from the skies and the clouds of smoke and dust settling on everyone and then going home and and holding sasha rocking her to bed as i was watching the reports of what had happened and uh you know i think that for me like for for most of us our first reaction was and continues to be just heartbreak for the families in uh involved the other thing that we all remember is how america came together and so 10 years later i'd say america came through this thing in a way that was consistent with our character we've made mistakes some things haven't happened as quickly as they needed to but overall we took the fight to al

01:16:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJu4GSnv-jA&t=4561s)

but overall we took the fight to al qaeda we preserved our values we preserved our character and yet you hear that you think about it differently now it's just a jet going in a national airport here we are surrounded by the machinery of office right you're this is your home base and yet they consider you at your most exposed it was a game changer and it remains that we will always listen to that sound differently now well you know what i there's no doubt that airports are a lot more inconvenient pennsylvania avenue shut down but what i'm struck by is how much continuity there is there have been some changes since since 9 11. some innocence perhaps has been lost earlier we sat down in the cabinet room where i asked the president about the atmosphere of high alert surrounding this 9 11 anniversary i came from new york this morning this is the that's the front page of the post and there's the unveiling of the memorial the names and yet in front of it is a police officer with an automatic weapon it automatic weapons all over the city this weekend does that kind of sum up where we are here 10 years later well there's no doubt that we are safer now than we were 10 years ago we are in a much stronger position now than we were then and al qaeda is on the path to defeat we've taken out huge chunks of their senior leadership most prominently obviously osama bin laden but you know there's still people out there who would try to hurt americans who would try to strike at us and we have to be constantly vigilant we've been told this threat we're under now is specific credible and unconfirmed right what

must you choose not to act on of all the the traffic you see and what do these three words mean when taken together what are we supposed to do well i think the most important thing the american people should know is is that for months we've been preparing for this 9 11 anniversary obviously

01:18:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJu4GSnv-jA&t=4681s)

9 11 anniversary obviously each 9 11 we start seeing threat streams coming up the fact that this is the 10th anniversary means that we're seeing more of these threat streams coming up one particular threat was specific enough and credible enough that we felt it necessary to inform state and local partners so that they could also be prepared what we want all americans to know is although your government has prepared for it it's important for everybody to keep their eyes open we have to honor those who have been fallen but people should be on the lookout and make sure that if something suspicious is taking place that you're informing your local law enforcement part of a conversation with the president will be continuing on nbc nightly news tomorrow night by the way there was vivid proof today of this zero tolerance security policy on this 911 f-16 fighter jets shadowed an american airlines flight from los angeles late today as it came in on final approach for a landing at jfk here in new york apparently there were concerns on board that some passengers spent too long in the restroom so they exercised undue caution though there was never any real emergency once on the ground federal officials interviewed the passengers involved there were several assorted other scares at several other airports around the country today but no verified security threats of course anniversaries like this force us all to relive that morning 10 years ago listen to how we first learned something had happened at the pentagon which we later learned was the impact of american airlines flight 77 it felt just a few moments ago like there was an explosion of some kind here at the pentagon and i saw just a moment ago as i looked outside a number of construction workers who have been working here have taken flight they're running as far away from the building as they can right now from that morning that was our

01:20:03 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJu4GSnv-jA&t=4803s)

right now from that morning that was our pentagon correspondent jim miklaszewski we didn't know then that two wars would be launched in the name of 911 and jim is with us tonight again from the pentagon and jim of course there's news from one of those fronts again today that's right a grim reminder that the war in afghanistan still goes on a massive truck bomb exploded at a coalition base just outside of kabul wounding 77 nato forces most of them american fortunately the injuries were only minor but it's a grim reminder too when the u.s military and pentagon officials are well aware that this war drags has dragged on for 10 years america's patience money uh and in fact uh it is running out and so the u.s military has has buckled down to meet president obama's 2014 deadline for the withdrawal of all american troops which means according to military officials they only have three more years brian to get it right jim mcclaszewski at the pentagon ten years later thanks and nightly news will continue from ground zero here in new york in just a moment [Music] after this emotional day around the country we're back here from new york tonight with something of a personal story for us you're about to hear from a young man named charlie green charlie was one of our summer interns at nightly news and as interns go he was just like all the others smart well-mannered with a good work ethic but we later learned he was different in a big way he was a 9 11 kid

01:22:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJu4GSnv-jA&t=4920s)

was a 9 11 kid his father don had been killed when united airlines flight 93 crashed in shanksville pennsylvania so we asked charlie if he wouldn't mind talking about how that staggering loss had changed the way he looks at life charles my father don greene was on united flight 93. flying was totally his thing that's what he did for a living he was involved in the aviation industry his father was a pilot he learned to fly when he was 14 before he had his driver's license it was his passion he was the one who could have landed that plane and i know i know in the bottom of my heart that if he could have been up in that cockpit he would have been and you would have landed that plane safely we've always said that the sum of the each individual passenger's legacy is nowhere near as great as the implic the influence they had on this country as they boarded that flight became one and took a tremendous uh tremendous risk they they acted when it's hard to

tell if any of us would have done the same thing when we go to shanksville we have to deal with those 40 people who came together and did something so great and then people wanting to memorialize that action but we also have to deal with our individual loss i lost my dad throughout the past 10 years i've tried to think more of these anniversaries as less of remembering a loss and more of remembering a life when he was my age he lost his mother shortly thereafter lost his father so i've always seen his life as a source of courage for me if he could do it if he got to where he was a man that i looked so much up to then i could get that too i've always said that i'd rather have him for the first 10 years of my life setting up the foundation for the rest of my life than anything else and i i consider myself so lucky to have had that for the amount of time that i did you know one of the things that i like to do is as these anniversaries come and go is to think you know if he was still here what would he think of where i am right now you

01:24:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJu4GSnv-jA&t=5040s)

he think of where i am right now you know that's been something that's kept me strong and hopefully he'd be proud of where i am where my family is and i think he would our friend charlie green in his own words about his own family's loss we also got to see charlie today taking part in the ceremony from shanksville reading some of the names just one of three somber and simultaneous events on this september 11th day we're back with more tonight right after this back here in new york where tonight we can hear bagpipes in the distance absent from this main ceremony here today where many of the 9 11 first responders there just wasn't enough room for everyone here today but as nbc's kevin temples found they came anyway from around the nation and the world to mark this day and remember those who didn't make it out it is a place of pilgrimage of refuge and camaraderie for first responders from new york and around the world today here for one reason to show that people are thinking o'hara's pub stands directly across from ground zero on that awful day it suffered damage and lost beloved patrons today is a day to tell stories and remember don't forget to never forget and they feel it important to be here for them from chicago from california from london england firefighters and police officers stand together as one we put fires out we save lives so it is family it's a family job i'm standing here so that their families know that we care about them and we cared about those guys on the street outside a chance meeting the family of fallen sergeant timothy roy with police officers from lakeland texas who donated 10 thousand dollars in his honor why are you here today i wanted to see the healing i wanted to see i saw this place at its worst i want to see it its best 13 year old timothy junior today wore

01:26:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJu4GSnv-jA&t=5160s)

13 year old timothy junior today wore his father's cap and badge in our time of need and like when we're all in sorrow people getting like gathered together from everywhere and anywhere and came to help us like pretty much repair what was broken to honor the fallen a tribute filled with tradition heart and pride on this day as it is every day it is brotherhood sisterhood family [Music] amen kevin tibbles nbc news new york and we're back with more right after this [Music] as we set the top of the broadcast tonight soon it will be september 12th and another anniversary will be history so that is our broadcast for this sunday night september 11th 2011 i'm brian williams thank you for being here with us and we hope to see you tomorrow evening we will leave you tonight with a look back at what this day looked like this important 10th anniversary for our country [Music]

01:28:40 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJu4GSnv-jA&t=5320s)

okay [Music] so [Music] so now that september 11th is behind us along with the 10th anniversary and the tension of that terror alert is loosening new york mayor michael bloomberg is asking that we turn a page he's requesting that people no longer call it ground zero for a lot of reasons and prefers the world trade center and the national september 11th memorial and museum the facility actually opened to the public today by appointment and so people got to see for themselves in person today just what a powerful place it is

01:30:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJu4GSnv-jA&t=5400s)

place it is our report tonight from nbc's rehema ellis in lower manhattan the design called reflecting absence includes two enormous pools in the footprints of the twin towers each about an acre in size with 30 foot cascading waterfalls the names of all the victims killed in the terror attacks are inscribed into bronze panels surrounding the pools for many like enthula casamatis it's turned the site into a heartfelt touchstone i actually saw my brother's name it really just was so powerful for me the memorial evokes tears and sadness but some say it also gives them a feeling of peace it's quiet you cannot hear the outside noise coming in from the city and what you hear most is just the falling water the architects intentionally left space between the etched names so people could leave something behind for their loved ones maria chacon's son alex worked on the 90th floor i left a little note for how much we love him people also spent time at the site making memories of victims names jason barashi lost his cousin neil david levin who worked for the port authorities it's a way to actually get something tangible out of the site to bring to bring him home with us florida firefighter lieutenant orlando seguira was inspired to seek out robert david perazzo's name after seeing the touching image of robert's father in the newspapers today you found robert's relative at the memorial yes we did what was it for you we all started crying 13 big men started crying it's emotional emotional with so many lives cut short now a memorial to remember them forever rehema ellis nbc news new york and that's our broadcast for this monday

01:32:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJu4GSnv-jA&t=5520s)

and that's our broadcast for this monday night as we begin a new week thank you for being here with us i'm brian williams and we hope to see you right back here tomorrow evening good night [Music] and good evening on this tuesday september 11th a date that will always and forever mean just one thing on the calendar especially for all those of us who were alive that day and most especially for those who lost someone on that day every year on this day we pause bell's toll and taps is played in many places this year though especially coming off the 10th anniversary just last year a lot of people noticed a change though today's date 9 11 remains cemented of course in history as the day that changed everything in the modern era nbc's ron allen starts us off tonight from the world trade center site in lower manhattan ron good evening good evening to you brian we're on the 22nd floor of the new world trade center and over here you can see the memorial down there set in the footprints of the original twin towers today's event was more intimate than many others with perhaps about a thousand people in attendance but it still generates very powerful emotions and my uncle alec rangachik who my brother and i missed meeting by 10 days the tradition of honoring each of the 2983 individuals lost lives on with only their relatives reading the names dominique politicians were excluded for the first time organizers said to keep the focus on the families president obama led a moment of silence at 8 46 a.m the time the first plane struck the north tower and later laid a wreath during a tribute at the pentagon where 184 people were killed

01:34:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJu4GSnv-jA&t=5640s)

pentagon where 184 people were killed this is never an easy day but it is especially difficult for all of you in shanksville pennsylvania vice president biden comforted families while in nevada mitt romney struck a patriotic tone during an appearance at the national guards conference we remember with heavy hearts the tragic loss of life and we express thankfulness for the men and women who responded to that tragedy eleven years later in many places this anniversary seemed more private than public many communities like glen rock new jersey which lost 11 residents chose not to hold a formal observance for the first time ronald paul fazio senior this always will be a deeply personal day for those who lost loved ones like rob fazio who says the stories he's heard about his father's heroism while trapped on the 99th floor in his office have given him a sense of purpose countless people told us that he was literally holding the door to help them and we saw that as an inspiration of how we lived his life and how we want to continue to live our lives his foundation hold the door open helps people dealing with grief the south tower of the world trade center was gone 11 years later new stories are still emerging one in a new documentary airing tonight on discovery today pasquale bezelli says he's finally able to talk about how he survived sliding from the 22nd floor to the top of a pile of rubble as the building collapsed around it i didn't feel anything it was my body was totally numb i mean i felt nothing at all i just opened up my eyes and saw blue sky i really thought i was dead generation before ours december

7th was always a poignant day on the calendar for everyone alive 12 years ago today it's 9 11. the attacks that day changed so much two wars were launched it changed how we fly how we look up at planes in the sky it changed the modern world and it was the end of the world of course for the victims and their loved ones there were remembrances today just as

01:36:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJu4GSnv-jA&t=5760s)

there were remembrances today just as there will always be at ground zero in new york where family members read the names of loved ones lost at the white house a moment of silence at 8 46 a.m the moment the first aircraft struck the world trade center at the pentagon a wreath laying today many of those in attendance wore ribbons of their own in shanksville pennsylvania bells told for the passengers and crew who died on board united flight 93. let's not forget this was a day to remember those who were lost in the september 11th attacks 15 years ago today with ceremonies here in new york at the pentagon and in shanksville pennsylvania rehema ellis reports on today's tributes today at ground zero a solemn tribute we carry your heart in our hearts jeff dad the whole family misses you among those lost hundreds of first responders you will never be forgotten on 9 11 the nation came together jerry diama dale was only 10 when his father died in the north tower today he works with children of other tragedies sometimes the bad things that happen in our lives put us on the path to where we should be going to help others as many have helped me ps i love you dad at the pentagon president obama remembered the fallen we remember and we will never forget the nearly 3 000 beautiful lives taken from us so cruelly including 184 men women and children here and in shanksville pennsylvania hundreds more came together we gather today to honor the heroes of flight 93 when the skies over this field gave their lives in order to thwart an attack on the united states capital along with remembrance a day of solidarity and service back in new york thousands of volunteers packed meals for those in need seeing so many people just kind of

01:38:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJu4GSnv-jA&t=5880s)

seeing so many people just kind of putting aside their differences and coming together for this shows like the unity that has come from something bad and how people have like tried to change it and on a personal note i was here working on 9 11 and i can still see in my mind's eye the days look on people's faces covered in soot and ash they were frightened i was frightened too the terrorists tried to topple america's spirit but today i have to tell you this community is more vibrant than ever and for me one world trade center behind me is a sparkling symbol that the terrorists failed america's can-do spirit is more alive than ever kate such a good point rehema ellis thank you sixteen years later the names are red ralph gerhart robert gerlick family and friends gather in shanksville pennsylvania the military brass paid tribute outside the pentagon we gathered here today a new yorker reflected for the first time as president the living breathing soul of america wept with grief for every life taken on that day even while coping with the hurricane's destruction first responders stopped for a moment of silence in puerto rico and miami across the country the artifacts of the twin towers shared with cities large and small today have special meaning from grapevine texas to helzberg california freeport maine to the tiny town of rockville minnesota while once again courageous families reminded us of what they lost my father paul dario curioli dad this is brady he's your first grandson this year's anniversary like those that came before it making the same simple request never forget stephanie gosk nbc news new york finally in our inspiring america report tonight as our nation comes together to mark the 17th

01:40:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJu4GSnv-jA&t=6000s)

comes together to mark the 17th anniversary of 9 11 we meet a woman who lost someone close in the attacks and is now helping keep the memory of the fallen alive not just on this day but each and every day a ritual of remembrance happy birthday angela unfolds every day at the 9 11 memorial in new york liza jonas is laying a single white rose on the names of victims on their birthday there isn't one day through the year where there isn't a birthday of a victim how many how many today today there are a total of 11. from angela houtz who worked at the pentagon to john pepe salerno a traitor and soon-to-be dad to elaine myra greenberg known as the cool aunt by her family happy birthday must be hard not to get emotional i find

myself this is heavy it really is heavy for liza it's personal her brother bobby was a firefighter in the south tower on september 11th remembering his birthday has helped her heal there he is there he is yes not only do i come out here on his birthday but i come out here on my own very early in the morning it's just me and i with a cup of coffee the flowers all donated by mikey calarone a florist who was a volunteer paramedic on 9 11. it actually helps me deal with the loss of the people here on that tragic day knowing that we have never forgotten and always remember them the roses never go unnoticed my family and i are deeply touched and families reaching out after discovering the touching tribute it really tears at my heart and it just makes me want to continue what i'm doing a single rose celebrating those who were lost and who will always be loved liza and mikey are just two of the people involved in the birthday roses project we want to thank them for paying tribute every day on our behalf to these

01:42:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJu4GSnv-jA&t=6120s)

every day on our behalf to these families that's nightly news for this tuesday i'm lester holt we leave you tonight with the moving image captured today from the air the world trade center on this anniversary of 911 towering in the distance above the clouds good night everyone as this country marks 18 years since the 9 11 attack we face the harsh reality that the toll of death and suffering continues to grow today a staggering 33 thousand first responders struggle with illness and injuries related to their exposure to the toxic rubble i spoke to one of them 18 years since that tragic day and the attack on america is still claiming victims could you imagine back in 2001 as you were at that pile thinking that we'd still be losing people because of 9 11. incredible here in 2019 it's unbelievable never thought that was going to happen dennis murphy is a retired nypd detective who served for 23 years he spent months after september 11th identifying and cataloging the remains of victims at ground zero two years ago he was diagnosed with cancer that has now spread to eight parts of his body he's undergone more than 60 rounds of chemotherapy what are the doctors telling you i'm not curable it's basically a maintenance program i'm living on borrowed time the september 11th victim compensation fund was created to help support the heroes and families of the fallen but after multiple extensions it found itself running out of money depended on congress to step in before it could no longer accept claims it was a political battle and literally a life's mission for former nypd detective luis alvarez you made me come down here the day before my 69th round of chemo he died of 9 11 related cancer just weeks before the bill to extend funding was passed we promised him we

01:44:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJu4GSnv-jA&t=6241s)

funding was passed we promised him we would see this thing through for him we were with luis alvarez's brother phil this week when he visited the 9 11 memorial for the first time it brings this feeling of being on hollowed ground and how many people perished here but how many people did great things down here my brother being one of them just last week a solemn ceremony to remember 22 additional new york city firefighters who recently died from 9 11 related illnesses something the department's chief says happens all too often our department gathers we mourn and we renew our promise to never forget to never forget the 3 000 people who died on that day but also those we continue to lose first responders who have risked it all out of duty and honor god forbid it happened again i would be down there in a heartbeat knowing what i know but i wouldn't want to have anybody else go through what any of us did detective murphy has become a powerful advocate for the world trade center health program which continues to screen and monitor those who responded to the attack sites here in new york as well as the pentagon and shanksville pennsylvania

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